

Labor Leaders Endorse Hughes

One-third of all laws beneficial to labor, passed in New York State in 133 years, were passed during Governor Hughes' term at his request and signed by him.

INDIANA

STATE BUILDING

TRADES COUNCIL

OFFICE OF FRED SAYLOR, PRESIDENT
224 EDEN PLACE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

October, 31st 1916

To Whom it may Concern:

I will work for and vote for the Republican Ticket because I confidently believe that the welfare of the Country demands the restoration of the Republican Party to control of Public affairs. No Wage earner should be deceived or confused by fake issues advanced by the Democrats. The overshadowing issue before the American Laborer to-day is the re-establishment of the protective Tariff system. Every thoughtful man knows that the present Industrial activity in this Country is due entirely to War Orders from Europe and that when the Foreign War comes to an end we will be confronted with Democratic Free Trade, which never has failed to bring disaster to the American Wage earner. The four Years will prove a crucial period in our national life. This Government must be administered by competent and efficient men. If the interests of the Workmen and their families are to be safeguarded the Republican Ticket must win at the Polls next Tuesday.

Fred Saylor
President of the State Building Trades Council of Indiana.

Pennsylvania State Building Trades Council

President, L. DONARD KRAFT,
1312 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pa.

First Vice President, D. S. LEIGHTY,
422 Third St., Beaver, Pa.

Second Vice President, H. J. IDELL,
Allentown, Pa.

Third Vice President, M. J. MCDERMOTT,
539 N. Vides St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Fourth Vice President, E. J. MCMAHON,
1312 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Fifth Vice President, JOSEPH L. WALKER,
2940 Peach St., Erie, Pa.

Secretary-Treasurer, E. F. WELSH,
Union Labor Temple, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Organized at Harrisburg, Pa., April 27, 1914.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

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From the standpoint of the American laborer, we are of the opinion that the most important issue is protection, for in no other way can the standards of living we now have be maintained. Every laboring man knows that before the European War commenced many workmen were out of employment in this country, and that there had been much suffering during the previous winter condition; but it will certainly recur as soon as the war is over unless some steps are taken to repeal the Democratic free trade law now on the statute books; for every Democratic tariff which has been passed since the Civil War has brought disaster to the American wage-earner, and the present law from the standpoint of protection is the least favorable to the maintenance of our national standards of any of the laws for which the Democratic Party is responsible.

No other party than the Republican can be depended upon to restore a suitable protective tariff system and we shall, therefore, work and vote for the Republican ticket, believing that we are doing the best thing possible to safeguard the interests with which we are charged.

Leonard Kraft
President.

E. F. Welsh
Secretary-Treasurer.

(From Cleveland Leader, October 23, 1916)

TRADES COUNCIL BALKS AT WILSON

Second Attempt to Force Labor to Indorse His Re-election Fails.

(From The Philadelphia Public Ledger, 1916, p. 20)

MOVE TO INDORSE WILSON QUASHED BY LABOR UNION

Central Body, in Stormy Session, Tables Resolution Indefinitely

INDIGNATION GREETED

(From The Washington Post, October 22, 1916)

CHICAGO LABOR FOR HUGHES.

Building Trades Council Says President Wilson Lacks Sympathy.

Special to The Washington Post. Chicago, Oct. 21.—One branch of organized labor swung into line for Charles E. Hughes tonight when the Chicago Building Trades Council, of which Simon O'Donnell is president, adopted resolutions urging the defeat of President Wilson because of lack of sympathy with the American workmen.

Arthur D. Burbank, chairman of the legislative board of railroad trainmen in Illinois, issued a statement declaring that railroad employees are turning from President Wilson.

"It is the first time our national officers have attempted to tell us how we must vote, and there are thousands like myself who will not stand for such dictation," said Mr. Burbank. "I am convinced that the sentiment among the railroad men for Hughes is growing stronger every day."

This is Labor's Answer to the Attempt To Deliver the American Workingman's Vote

THE labor vote cannot be delivered to the Democratic party. The bulk of it throughout the country will go to Hughes was the positive declaration of Thomas J. Williams, one of the most prominent trade unionists in the United States, in course of an interview in Pittsburgh on November 1, 1916.

Mr. Williams is National President of the Building Trades department of the American Federation of Labor, which includes every craft in any way identified with the building industry.

It has a membership of nearly one and a half million men, all mechanics, which is more than fifty per cent of the entire membership of the organization of which Samuel Gompers is the head.

Mr. Williams has just completed a tour of the south and middle west, in course of which he talked with representatives of every industry and addressed seven national conventions of labor organizations.

"No man or group of men can deliver the labor vote to the Democratic party," said Mr. Williams. "The American workingman always has supported the Republican ticket, and for a very practical reason.

"He knows that the Republican party stands for the great principle of protection to American industry, and that without such protection there can be no prosperity for him. The wage-earners

The Republican Protective Tariff protects workingmen's wages without increasing the cost of living. The question is shall we have a Democratic tariff that only pretends to help the wage-earner or a Republican tariff that really protects him?

of this country today consider the re-establishment of the protective tariff system the one great issue before them, and they will vote accordingly next Tuesday.

"No sensible laboring man is deceived by the present abnormal industrial activity in the United States. We all know that war orders from Europe are responsible for it.

"If the foreign conflict should end tomorrow, the wage-earners of this country would be confronted with precisely similar conditions to those which confronted them during the first two years of the Wilson administration—idle mills, dead locomotives, men out of employment, and business depression everywhere.

"The workingman will vote next Tuesday for the Republican ticket because he will then vote for his own material welfare.

"In my trip through the south and west, I discussed the political situation with hundreds of laboring men. I found no indication anywhere of a pronounced trend of sentiment in the ranks of the wage-earners towards the Democratic party."

Vote for Hughes

The Philadelphia Inquirer

LABOR LEADERS INDORSE HUGHES

Resolutions Adopted at Meeting of the Building Trades Council of Philadelphia

Declaring that President Wilson has proven himself an enemy of organized labor and that, on the contrary, Mr. Hughes has shown himself the friend of labor throughout his whole career, a series of resolutions supporting the candidacy of Mr. Hughes was passed last night at a meeting of the Philadelphia Building Trades Council, representing in all about 60,000 men. The meeting was held in the Parkway Building, and the resolutions were passed after a spirited discussion. Frank J. Schneider presided.

A standing vote was taken. The resolution declared that until his entrance into politics six years ago, President Wilson had proved himself a "harsh, bitter and unjust critic" of labor unions, and had shown by his speeches and his writings, in his books, that he had no sympathy with the labor movement. The statement was attributed to him that "Labor unions dragged the highest men to the level of the lowest," and he was quoted as being a "herce partisan of the open shop."

The passage was cited from President Wilson's book, "The History of the American People," where he asserted that the Chinese labor was preferable to the Polish, Slavonic or Italian. On the other hand, it was declared that Mr. Hughes had been shown by his words, his deeds and his record, that he had been a friend of labor and of labor unions during his entire career.

Mr. Hughes' utterance, that he regarded all labor unions as a "fine opportunity for the improvement of the condition of the workingman," was quoted, and his statement, "the interests of labor are the interests of all people, and the protection of the wage earner in the security of life and health by every practical means, is one of the most sacred trusts of society."

"We vigorously condemn," read the resolution, "the action of labor leaders in endeavoring to create opposition to Mr. Hughes, and with the belief in mind that all labor unions should be kept free from political parties, we urge all our members, as well as those of other unions and locals, to cast their votes as their interest best demands."